

Message Text

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64

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IGA-02 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /029 W

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R 111218Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 3479

UNCLAS MANAMA 1341

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : EAID, BA

SUBJECT : TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT: BAHRAINIS ARE READY
TO MAKE FIRST PAYMENT

1. EMBASSY WAS CONTACTED SEPT. 11 BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE OFFICIAL WHO STATED THAT THE GOB WAS EMBARRASSED THAT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE JULY 24 AID AGREEMENT HAD ALREADY BEEN MISHANDLED. UPON OUR QUERY OF WHY HE FELT THAT WAY, OFFICIAL NOTED THAT AGREEMENT STATES THAT GOB WILL PAY, "WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF THE COMING INTO EFFECT OF THIS AGREEMENT, AND QUARTERLY THEREAFTER SO LONG AS THE AGREEMENT IS IN EFFECT, ...AT THE RATE OF \$1,100 PER ADVISOR PER MONTH A SUM SPECIFIED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND BASED ON THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF ADVISOR/MONTHS LIKELY TO BE PROVIDED DURING THE QUARTER".

2. WE CONFIRMED THAT THAT INDEED WAS THE AGREEMENT. HE THEN NOTED THAT THE THIRTY DAY PERIOD HAD PASSED AND ASKED HOW MUCH WE WANTED FOR THE FIRST TRANCHE. AND WE WERE STUCK. CHARGE TOLD OFFICIAL THAT EMBASSY WOULD OFFICIALLY INQUIRE FROM DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND AID HOW MUCH WAS WANTED AS THE FIRST PAYMENT. AND BY THE WAY, ASKED THE OFFICIAL, WHEN ARE THE ADVISORS DUE? WELL, WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO EXPECT THE PUBLIC HOUSING ADVISOR BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER, BUT THAT WE COULD NOT CONFIRM THIS -- AND THAT WE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT OTHER ADVISORS.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WE INTERPRET QUERY FROM GOB AS: A) SERIOUS QUESTION ABOUT PAYMENT, COUPLED WITH B) FRIENDLY CHIDING ABOUT
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DIRTH OF INFORMATION ABOUT ADVISORS WHICH HAS BEEN PASSED ON TO

GOB. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO BE SUPPLIED WITH: A) A DOLLAR FIGURE
FOR THE INITIAL GOB PAYMENT; AND B) A STATUS REPORT ON THE ADVISORS
AND WHEN WE MIGHT EXPECT THEM TO ARRIVE?

BURLEIGH

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